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Diana T Fritz 05/24/2007 04:30:53 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

Cable Text:

UNCLASSIFIED

SIPDIS

TELEGRAM April 15, 2003

To: No Action Addressee

Action: Unknown

From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 1820 - ROUTINE)

TAGS: KPAO Captions: None

Subject: IS THE MIGHTY MENGASH MOSCOW BOUND?

Ref: None

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 01820

SIPDIS CXABU:

ACTION: POL

INFO: PAO AMB DCM P/M ECON RSO

Laser1:

INFO: PAO

DISSEMINATION: POL

CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: AMB:MMWAHBA DRAFTED: POL:STWILLIAMS CLEARED: DCM:RAALBRIGHT

VZCZCADI462

RR RUEHC RUCNRAQ RHEHNSC RUEAIIA RHEFDIA RUEKJCS

RUEKJCS RUCJACC RHRMDAB DE RUEHAD #1820 1051119 ZNR UUUUU ZZH

R 151119Z APR 03

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 9439 INFO RUCNRAQ/IRAQ COLLECTIVE RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC

RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J5/UNMA//

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//OSD/NESA//

RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL

RHRMDAB/COMUSNAVCENT

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 001820

SIPDIS

STATE FOR IRAQ PD TASKFORCE, NEA/PPD AND NEA/ARP

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>KPAO IZ TC</u>

SUBJECT: IS THE MIGHTY MENGASH MOSCOW BOUND?

REF: KUWAIT 1199

UAE Information Minister Abdullah bin Zayid called the Ambassador 4/14 with a postscript to the tale of the "mighty" Mengash -- the scrappy Iraqi farmer who "shot down" an Apache with a vintage WWI rifle in the first days of the war and became a cult hero in much of the Arab world. Apparently an Abu

Dhabi TV crew sought Mengash out the other day for an interview. When approached by the Emirati journalists, a paranoid Mengash refused to go on camera, claiming "the Americans" were looking for him and he was now seeking "political asylum" in Russia. If he made it to Moscow, Mengash promised Abu Dhabi TV an exclusive. An amused Abdullah swore the story was true.

WAHBA